

8100 - PROCEDURE 202

MACS Modes - FIREScope

(May 2010)

[\(See FIREScope MACS 410-1 MACS Group Procedure Guide\)](#)

The Firescope Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) “Modes of Operation” (aka MODES) are designed to coordinate emergency resource needs for current and anticipated emergency incidents. The MACS procedure shall ensure that all efforts are coordinated with state and national wildland fire activities.

California currently uses both, the FIREScope MACS Modes and [California Wildfire Coordinating Group \(CWCG\) Preparedness Levels](#). Although either system could be used independently, both systems are used together as each have advantages when considering the variety and complexity of emergencies that occur in California.

FIREScope MACS MODES

Firescope MACS Modes are more operationally focused, and consider other “all risk” incidents. The four modes of operations reflect overall regional emergency activities, specific incident activity, resource commitment, and predicted weather patterns that may result in continued or increased resource commitments.

The situations defining the four MACS Modes are outlined below.

Mode 1 is a non-critical situation typical of a non-fire season or early fire season situation.

Mode 2 reflects a normal fire season situation with no significant resource impacts.

Mode 3 reflects a serious situation and may require Northern and Southern MAC Groups to participate in MACS activities to include providing incident resource information and Mode 3 conference calls.

Mode 4 reflects a total Geographic Area commitment or statewide effort requiring MACS activities at both Geographic Areas and may also require CALMAC activation.

- CALMAC Statewide coordination may require a face-to-face meeting in Sacramento; however, this is usually determined by group consensus. Conference calls are also effective and are often used, especially for short duration events.

Responsibilities and Action

Mode 1 - no action.

Mode 2 - no action.

Mode 3 - reflects a serious situation and may require Northern and Southern MAC Groups to participate in MACS activities to include providing incident resource information and Mode 3 conference calls.

1. Unit CC (if Cal EMA Operational Area Dispatch Office)

- Cal EMA Operational Area (OA) Dispatch Offices complete the **Assigned/Available Resources** form ([MACS Form 405](#)) and forward it to Northern or Southern MAC Groups.
- Upon request by the Northern or Southern MACS Groups.
- Update on twelve (12) hour intervals.

Mode 4 - reflects a total Geographic Area commitment or statewide effort requiring MACS activities at both Geographic Areas and may also require CALMAC activation.

- CALMAC Statewide coordination may require a face-to-face meeting in Sacramento; however, this is usually determined by group consensus. Conference calls are also effective and are often used, especially for short duration events.

1. Unit CC (if Cal EMA Operational Area Dispatch Office)

- Cal EMA Operational Area (OA) Dispatch Offices continue to complete the **Assigned/Available Resources** form [MACS Form 405](#) and forward to Northern or Southern MACS Group.

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